

Hamilton Field,  
Auto Maintenance Shop Type A  
(Facility Nos. 960, 969)  
West of C Street between State Access Road  
and Main Entrance Road  
Novato  
Marin County  
California

HABS No. CA-2398-AX

HABS  
CAL  
21-NOVA,  
1AX-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
San Francisco, California

# HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

## HAMILTON FIELD Auto Maintenance Shop Type A (Facility Nos. 960, 969)

HABS  
CAL  
21-NOVA,  
1AX-

HABS No. CA-2398-AX

**Location:** Hamilton Army Air Field  
Novato, Marin County, California  
Auto Maintenance Shop Type A  
Facility Nos. 960 and 969 (west of C Street between State Access Road and Main Entrance Road)

U.S.G.S.: Novato, CA. Quadrangle (7.5' series), 1954 (revised 1980)  
Petaluma Point, CA. Quadrangle (7.5' series), 1959 (revised 1980)  
UTM Coordinates: Zone 10; A: 542100/4213620; B: 544720/4212220;  
C: 542760/4210650; D: 541040/4212600

### Significance:

Buildings 960 and 969 are considered significant for their association with Air Force history in northern California, and with World War II actions in the Pacific Theater. The auto maintenance shops were constructed in the early years of World War II as part of the base build-up at that time.

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) for a comprehensive Statement of Significance and individual report HABS No. CA-2398-A for a condensed Statement of Significance.

### Description:

These are small rectangular frame buildings with low-pitched gable roofs covered with composition shingles. They have concrete pier foundations and floors. The gable ends contain square louvers and four six- over six-light double hung wood sash windows. There are six ground-to-roofline entry bays with wooden doors, and one six- over six-light double hung wood sash window on the north side of the front facade next to the last entry bay. The interior is one large room with a small office, defined by wood partitions, on the north side. Ceilings are open to the peak with exposed duct work for the forced air gas heaters.

### Historical Context:

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) and Section B in report HABS No. CA-2398-F.

Built in 1942, these two buildings were used for automobile repair and maintenance. They are used as storage by the U. S. Navy now and are included in the base closure action.

**HAMILTON FIELD**  
**Auto Maintenance Shop Type A**  
**(Facility Nos. 960, 969)**

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**Sources:**

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) and Section B in report HABS No. CA-2398-F.

See the following project Field Record work:

Facility No. 960, Auto Maintenance Shop: Field Record, roll 105, exposure 8-9

Facility No. 969, Auto Maintenance Shop: Field Record, roll 104, exposures 1-4, 9-12

The line drawn sketches were drafted on site in 1994 by Keith Syda, scanned into a computer and drawn by Christopher MacDonald in 1995, and corrected and finalized by Claire Warshaw in 1996 (all PAR Environmental Services, Inc. staff).

**Project Information:**

Hamilton Army Air Field is owned by various federal entities including the Department of the Navy, Department of the Army, United States Coast Guard, and General Services Administration (GSA). The Army/GSA parcels are being excessed and sold to private developers. The Navy property is included in Base Closure and Realignment actions.

As part of the Army's undertaking, it has been determined in consultation with the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) that the excess sale will have an affect on properties at the air field, and that these properties are components of a district that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Based on consultation with the OHP and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, pursuant to 36 CFR part 800, regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f), a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was entered into by the interested parties in March 1994. The agreement stipulated that prior to excess sale the Army must contact the HABS/HAER division at the Western Regional Office of the National Park Service, San Francisco, California, to determine the appropriate level and kind of recordation for the subject properties. The MOA further stipulated that copies of the documentation be made available to the OHP and appropriate local archives designated by the OHP. This recordation has been prepared in order to meet those stipulations.

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Date prepared: July 1995

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Date of photographs: March 1995

